



BROMLEY CIVIC CENTRE, STOCKWELL CLOSE, BROMLEY BRI 3UH

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COUNCIL

Meeting to be held on Monday 13 October 2014

The questions and motions received for the meeting on 13th October 2014 are attached.

- 7 ORAL QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL (Pages 3 - 6)
- 8 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL (Pages 7 - 10)
- 13 MOTIONS (Pages 11 - 12)

Copies of the documents referred to above can be obtained from
<http://cds.bromley.gov.uk/>

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COUNCIL MEETING

13th October 2014

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

What was the result of the employment tribunal relating to changes to staff terms and conditions?

2. From Councillor Chris Pierce to the Portfolio holder for Public Protection and Safety

In relation to the recent placing of a considerable number of asylum seekers at the Mary Rose Inn Hotel in the heart of St Mary Cray village without the knowledge of LBB and local Councillors, can the Portfolio Holder please explain which agency placed the asylum seekers there and why LBB were not consulted, and further, to provide reassurances that no further such placements will take place in what is clearly such an unsuitable environment?

3. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Portfolio Holder for Care Services

References were made at recent PDS committees to the fact that this Council “has a policy of not allowing any more care homes in the Borough because they cost too much”.

I am not aware of any government guidelines that allow the potential cost of care homes to be a justification for not allowing any more to be built. Nor would the Labour Group support such a decision purely on this basis.

Unless the Council has conducted the required Strategic Housing Market and Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments, and has thereby ascertained that the needs of older people are being met, I believe that this policy would fall outside the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Can the Portfolio Holder for Care Services please assure me that Bromley Council is in compliance with requirements of the NPPF and all other relevant legislation, and that they are satisfied the Borough is and will be providing adequate care accommodation for its older residents?

4. From Cllr Kevin Brooks to the Portfolio Holder for Public Protection & Safety

Can the portfolio holder please update members as to progress in the Waste4Fuel saga and does he feel that enough liaison and communication with residents has been undertaken?

5. From Cllr Vanessa Allen to the Portfolio Holder for the Environment

What process will the Council go through to respond to the Bakerloo Line Extension consultation and what opportunity will all councillors have to input into the Council's response?

6. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett of the Leader of the Council

What is the latest budget projection for each of the following four years and if he will make a statement?

7. From Councillor David Livett to the Portfolio Holder for Public Protection and Safety

Will the portfolio holder set out the actions now planned by the Council and its partners to ensure the nuisance of waste and waste transfer at the Waste4Fuel site is brought to an early and final close?

8. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

How much was invested by Bromley Council last year in payday loan companies?

9. From Cllr Kevin Brooks to the Portfolio Holder for the Environment

Residents groups, Friends groups and Penge traders are trying hard to create a cleaner locality. What steps will the portfolio holder take over the current ineffectual street cleaning to ensure local people feel supported and that their own efforts are not in vain?

10. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett of the Leader of the Council

Further to my written question at the last meeting regarding the proposed development of Crystal Palace by the Zhongrong International (Group) Ltd what response has he had to his letter of 9th July to the Chairman, whether the Draft Business Plan has been produced and the competition for the new building undertaken?

11. From Councillor David Livett to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

Will the portfolio holder specify the value of the reserves held by the Council at 30 September (or if not available the most recently available date) that could be returned to the rate payers but which instead are being retained by the Council to defray future reductions in income or increases in costs?

12 From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

How much was paid to private landlords in housing benefit payments last year?

13. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett of the Portfolio Holder for Education

How many Fixed Penalty Notices for non-attendance at school have been issued in each of the past three school years, how many have been paid and how many of the parents or guardians have subsequently been taken to court for persistent failure to ensure their child attends school?

14. From Councillor David Livett to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

Will the portfolio holder set out how the comparative risks to the public purse of its investments in commercial property, diversified growth funds and corporate bonds are measured and controlled by the Council?

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COUNCIL MEETING

13th October 2014

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN REPLY FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Portfolio Holder for Care Services

When will the new medical centre/pharmacy in Oakfield Rd, Penge be opening?

2. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services

How many complaints were received last year with regard to street cleaning in Penge and Cator ward?

3. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Portfolio Holder for Education

How many pupils are still waiting to be offered a primary school place?

4. From Cllr Richard Williams to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal & Recreation

Are there plans to introduce a homework club and toddler Rhyme Tyme sessions at Anerley Library Hub?

5. From Cllr Katherine Bance to the Portfolio Holder for the Environment

Can you please provide statistics for the reports to the Council on rubbish dumped on High Street Penge for 2014 and indicate if this is higher, average or lower compared to other wards.

6. From Councillor Katherine Bance to the Portfolio Holder for Education

How will LBB ensure that all stakeholders have had the opportunity to consult on the plans to market test the outsourcing of SEN provision before it is on an agenda at PDS.

7. From Councillor Katherine Bance to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal and Recreation

Why are LBB discouraging new businesses by charging for information on the planning status of empty properties and please provide details of the charges?

8. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

How much housing benefit was paid during 2013/14 in respect of privately rented accommodation which was previously owned by the London Borough of Bromley?
How many individual cases does this represent?

9. From Councillor Ian Dunn of the Portfolio Holder for Resources

What was the minimum balance in the Investment Portfolio in each month since January 2013? (based on the graph in paragraph 3.16 of paper FSD14057).

10. From Councillor Kevin Brooks to the Portfolio Holder for the Environment

In accordance with Council policy, Penge toilets are to be closed and replaced with the Community Toilet Scheme. Will the portfolio holder reassure residents that this will not result in poor service by ensuring that:

- There is correct and conspicuous signage on the High Street as to location of the toilets
- The provision in Penge will be monitored and that any problems will be swiftly resolved.
- All staff in McDonalds, Wetherspoons and Sainsbury's are to be fully informed that the toilets are for public use and there is no obligation make purchases
- Any complaint of pressure put on the public to buy products would be taken to the franchiser by the council
- Space must be provided for potential queues
- Money must be ring-fenced to ensure the empty building will not become an eyesore and that graffiti, broken windows etc. will be dealt with as a matter of urgency.

11. From Councillor Angela Wilkins to the Portfolio Holder for the Resources

How many payments on account have been made to housing benefit claimants for each of the last 12 months and what is the percentage of payments on account of all claims for each of these months?

12. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett to the Chairman of the Development Control Committee

Pursuant to Cllr Fawthrop's standard question at each council meeting: If he will show in table format how many:

- i. Non householder applications;
- ii. Householder applications;

have there been in each of the past three years and how many in each category, in each year, where the application has been recommended for approval, have been refused?

13. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett to the Portfolio Holder for Education

How many 'in year' admissions were there in each of the past three school years and how many in the current year to date?

14. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett to the Chairman of the Development Control Committee

If he will show in table format the following information for current municipal year with regard to applications placed on Planning committee agendas:

- i. the number of applications;
- ii. the number recommended for permission and subsequently refused by committee;
- iii. the number recommended for refusal and subsequently approved by committee;
- iv. the number 'called in.'

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COUNCIL MEETING

13th OCTOBER 2014

MOTIONS

(1) Council Finances

To be moved by Councillor Tony Owen and seconded by Councillor Alexa Michael

This Council notes the warning in the annual accounts, from the external auditors PriceWaterhouseCooper, of a significant risk to the authority from continuing financial restraints. It calls on the government to take a more realistic view of the finance and statutory responsibilities of a Council which already has a low spending per head.

(2) UK Corporation Tax

To be moved by Councillor Ian Dunn and seconded by Councillor Katherine Bance

This Council requests the Executive to include a requirement in all future tenders that the successful bidder should pay full UK Corporation Tax on the profit they make on the contract and not make use of tax havens.

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